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Humanities Division

Division Minutes

2-19-2019

Humanities Divison meeting minutes 02/19/2019

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Humanities Division Meeting, Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Community Hour, 11:40 am–12:40 pm, HFA #6

Stacey Aronson called the meeting to order at 11:43 a.m.

Announcements:

Upcoming Division meetings for March 7 and (if needed) April 18 were announced. Other times for Discipline Coordinator meetings might be needed.

Discipline-level awards are due to Kellcee Baker by March 18.

MAP applications are due by March 25 to Dean's office.

If anyone is interested in being considered for early promotion/tenure or an associate professor wishes to be considered for promotion to full professor, write Stacy by March 8.

The Dean has said that there are opportunities to teach at Capital Normal University in Beijing China.

We will host a Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Liberal Arts in Humanities this spring, Nick Phillips, Associate Professor of Music UW-Eau Claire. The professor designated earlier for spring pulled out. Philips is a replacement. He is only here for two separate weeks, March 25–29 and April 15-18. He will offer events like master classes, concerts, and so on.

- **Humanities Building renovation update**

Stacey projected a document about the renovation update from Facilities. This document will be posted on the Division website. There has already been a lot of input from faculty and students working with the architectural firm from Willmar doing the renovation. The subcommittee has been meeting about the vision for building. If you have concerns, bring them to the attention of the subcommittee (Stacey, Jess, Vik, Athena, or students).

- Clarification is needed about whether models/photographs of furniture will be available for review for those who use the building so that there could be a poll taken about desired furniture. The furniture shown in the document is not what will be in the building; it is only there to show possible configurations of furniture. Samples of potential new furniture can be seen in renovated classrooms in HFA.
- Corinne (student rep): She and Sarah talked with students who use the Humanities Building last semester about what kind of furniture they want. The architects took these requests into account.
- Renovation schedule information is also available in this document.
- Extra office and classroom space will be secured over summer just in case it is needed.
- We don't know at this time where the division office will be moved to when the renovation takes place; may not be Blakely again since the ground floor is undergoing renovation; when we know, we'll let you know.

Other announcements:

- Barbara: The URS submission deadline is on March 1. There are new categories this year, including sophomore work, capstone, and works in progress.
- Pieranna: The 43rd Midwest Philosophy Colloquium is devoted to race and gender in analytic philosophy. The first speaker from Duluth is coming next Wednesday.
- Stacey: The Chancellor has asked to come to the next division meeting. She has not indicated why. At a future division meeting, the upcoming, postponed Dean search will be discussed. We will look at previous search materials as a point of departure.

Presentation and conversation regarding proposal for new CSLOs (Vik, Nade and guest Rebecca Dean)

- The Canvas forum online (see email from RD) should be used to learn about and give feedback on new CSLO's. Or you can email Rebecca.
- Rebecca: HLC accreditation body has asked for clear goals for assessment. This has been done for disciplines. Now, institutional ones, curricular and co-curricular, are needed.
- Currently we have CSLO's. Our attempts to assess these have not been effective. HLC expects us to assess these and to give them documentation of this.
- We don't have all the kinds of documentation that they need. We have CSLO's from 2010. These are available on the website and can be found by searching.
- Rebecca presented points from the Updating UMM's CSLO's document (attached to her emails of February 11 and 12), including best practices for CSLO's, sample CSLO's from other institutions, a proposal from the Assessment committee about how we can start the conversation about new CSLO's with four proposed CSLO's, and alternatives to CSLO's.
- Opportunities for feedback: open forums and online discussions are going on now on new CSLO's. Follow the link and use the code from Rebecca's emails of February 11 and 12 to contribute to the online discussion, or go to one of the two remaining open forums.
- **Discussion and questions about CSLO's to Rebecca and among faculty:**
- Barbara: If we adopt the new recommended CSLO's, how do we integrate these with our gen ed categories and with advising? Rebecca: We might have to make minor changes to gen eds. They can map onto CLSO's for the most part. Distribution requirements might be an issue. Classes might be able to fulfill multiple gen eds in the future. This is being discussed. Changing gen ed requirements is under discussion.
- Barbara: What if a course fulfills more than one CSLO? Are they mutually exclusive? Rebecca: student projects can be focused on different categories. Other institutions do this.
- Viktor: Our syllabi have outcomes. The potential is already there to focus on one outcome or the other when doing assessment.
- Julie: If we're working with the model of the proposed new CSLO's, it could apply to us, or it could make us into a professional school. There is nothing here about the life of the mind, liberal arts, or knowledge. Academics are not included. Critical thinking and lifelong learning might need to be added.
- Siobhan: Word choice is crucial. It will determine which programs are offered and which are cut.

- Jess: I spent a lot of time on Mellon Grant this summer thinking about the identity of the Humanities division, and these proposed CSLO's don't seem to reflect Humanities.
- Aaron: There should be something about how we appreciate and how humans make sense of world.
- Becca: We can't proceed with new CSLO's if gen eds are going to change. One has to be definitively decided first or both have to be done together. Rebecca: CLSO's have to be decided first.
- Mary Elizabeth: CSLO's are problematic as a term. Rebecca: We can call them something else.
- Jess: The point is to show how to use liberal arts as tools every day so that students can understand this.
- Julie: What is the time frame for these? When is gen ed conversation going to start? Rebecca: The latter has already started. The end of this semester is the goal for new CSLO's at campus assembly.
- Viktor emphasized the importance of going to one of the forums or participating online.

[minutes submitted by Priyanka Basu, 2/20/19]
